OF RELIGION
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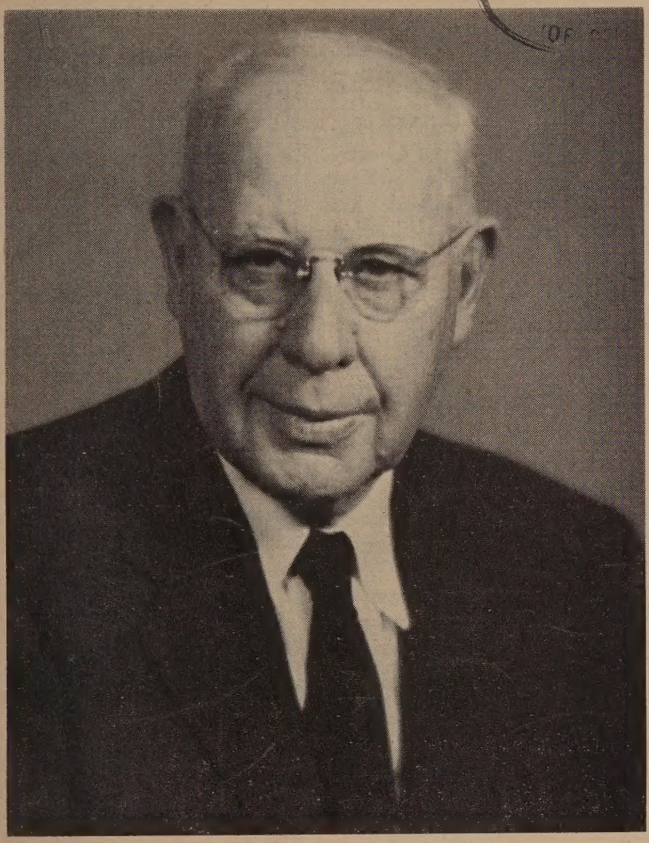

WILBERT E. "Doc" DULL
Pastor Emeritus — Seaman Church

(Story - Page 3)

CONGREGATIONAL KANSAS

JANUARY • 1959

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In Memory

Mrs. Maude M. Gebhardt, wife of Mr. Guy T. Gebhardt of 1340 N. Custer, Wichita, died on January 4 in a Wichita Hospital.

Daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. Lucius C. Markham, who served Congregational pastorates in a number of Kansas churches, Maude Gebhardt has been a loyal worker in the fellowship throughout her entire life. She was born at Smith Center, Kansas, in 1884. She was married in Rosedale Congregational Church in Kansas City in 1916. She has been a member of Fairmount Church, Wichita, since 1923. During her 35 years at Fairmount she has taught in the Church School and was teacher of the adult class at the time of her death; for many years she was Principal of the Week Day Church School: she has always been active in the Women's Work.

She has held numerous places of leadership in the Conference and was Secretary of Evangelism and Spiritual Life of the Kansas Women's Fellowship and a member of the Conference Evangelism Committee at the time of her death. In addition to her church, she was active in many civic enterprises. Gordon Jones of Wichita writes: "She was a wise, tolerant, generous, gallant woman. The like of her will not soon come our way again; for that reason it was great for many of us to have had the benediction of her love, energy, stimulus and interest."

A Memorial Service was held on January 5 at Fairmount Church.

OBSERVE
YOUTH WEEK
January 25 - February 1
1959

Mid-Winter Meetings

A number of Kansas leaders will take part in meetings centered at The Inn at Buck Hill Falls, Pennsylvania, in late January and early February: Mrs. Carl E. Georgeson - Christian Education; Mrs. Roscoe Graves - Women's Fellowship; Mr. Charles Armstrong - Laymen's Fellowship; Rev. Ray Carlton Jones - National Committee on O.C. W.M.; Rev. Floyd Q. Davidson - Christian Higher Education Fund meetings; Mr. Orval Reeves - American Board Prudential Committee; and Sup't. and Mrs. L. M. Rymph, various meetings in addition to the General Sessions of the General Council.

During the absence of the Rymphs, the Conference office will be covered at least until 3:00 P.M. each day by Miss Eva Wolford or Mrs. John Schlarb.

Installation At Sedgwick

Churches of the Southern Association will meet at Sedgwick on January 18 for the installation of the Rev. Owen Prince as Minister at Sedgwick.

CONGREGATIONAL KANSAS

Vol. 21 No. 1

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Editor
Mrs. L. M. Rymph
Club rate — 50 cents
Single subscription — $1.00

WILBERT E. "DOC" DULL HONORED

On Sunday morning, November 16, by unanimous vote of the church, the high honor of "Pastor Emeritus" was conferred upon the Rev. Mr. Dull who had served Seaman Church for more than thirty years.

GARRETT BIBLICAL INSTITUTE LIBRARY PACIFIC SCHOOL OF RELIGION

In presenting his resignation, Mr. Dull stated: "Realizing that the growth of the church demands that more leadership be on the field and with the interest and future of the church uppermost in my heart, I am tendering my resignation . . . When Mrs. Dull and I leave the parsonage, we shall be at home at 3118 North Central where the door will always be open. This **BELOVED COMMUNITY** is home to us; we are a part of this fellowship, and we will continue to serve in any way possible to further the program of our church."

The feelings of the Conference Staff and "Doc's" many friends across the state were well expressed by Ray Jones in the columns of First Church Echo:

"The bulletin of the Seaman Community Church contained a statement last week announcing that the Rev. Wilbert E. Dull had been elected Pastor Emeritus. Although many of you may not know "Doc", as he is affectionately called, I want to take this space to pay tribute to a wonderful man and a great ministry.

"Doc" Dull began his ministry at about the turn of the century and has been in the active pastorate for more than 50 years. While serving the Congregational Churches at both Garfield and Lenora he led the people in constructing new church buildings and parsonages.

In May, 1928, "Doc" came to Topeka and during the depression he helped the Seaman people build their present church as members of the congregation donated more than 8,600 hours of labor. For over 30 years he has ministered to the people of the Seaman community, standing by them through a depression, a terrible war and a disastrous flood in 1951 which saw 75% of the homes of the church people, the church itself, the parsonage and "Doc's" own car terribly damaged. Through all these years he has been a true shepherd and pastor. While many others have been receiving fame and fortune, "Doc" has labored nobly and in truly Christian spirit in the inconspicuous place.

Hundreds of Congregational young people in Kansas know "Doc" through Camp Wa-Shun-Ga where he has been in charge of the infirmary for more than 35 years, during Pilgrim Fellowship Camps. Whether it was a sprained ankle, poison ivy, a cold or a touch of homesickness, "Doc" always knew just what to do. He loved all the young people and they loved him.

At the start of this column we said "Doc" was elected Pastor Emeritus. We were careful not to use the word "resigned" because a man like "Doc" never really retires. He may not be the active pastor of a church, but he'll always be helping people and ministering to their needs.

So it's "Hats Off" to "Doc" Dull. If there were more people around like "Doc", the old world would be a much better place in which to live."

FIRST CHURCH TOPEKA MEN'S QUARTET
Tsuneo Tajima, Harold Naill, John Mettner, Bill Schade

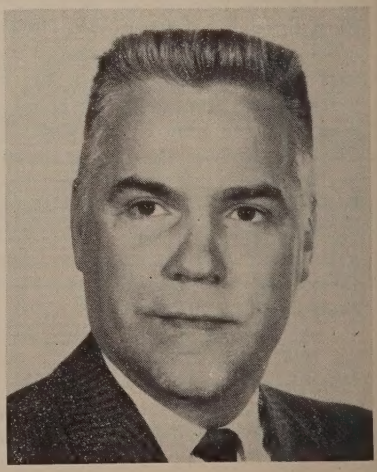
Washburn Convocation

This year the Ministers' Convocation will begin on Monday, February 16 at 9:30 A.M. with Chaplain Joseph Morgan leading in Morning Prayer at Benton Hall. The program arranged by the Convocation Committee with the Rev. Julian Johnson, Chairman, will close at noon on Wednesday the 18th.

The Rev. Rex Knowles, Campus Minister of the United Campus Christian Fellowship of the University of Nebraska will bring the chapel messages on Tuesday and Wednesday. Mr. Knowles earned his A.B. at Wesleyan University, his B.D. at Yale Divinity School, his M.A. and Ph.D. at the University of Nebraska and was awarded a D.D. by Hastings College. He is a former professional Basketball player and B.B. coach and the father of five children. He has been Religious Emphasis Week speaker in 30 colleges and Universities.

Dr. Victor Obenhaus, Guest Leader featured in the November Magazine will make three presentations. Dinner meetings at First Church on Monday and Central on Tuesday will include music by First Church Quartet, entertainment by Derril Peabody of Muscotah and talks by the Rev. Sadaichi Asai of Partridge and Dr. Obenhaus. A visit to the new Winter Veterans Hospital, Monday will be guided by Chaplain Herbert P. Fritze. Outstanding on the program will be a presentation on "Cross Currents in the Middle East" by the Rev. Ned Burr McKenney.

These sessions feature fellowship and are a "must" for new men in the state who want to get acquainted. As has been the pattern for the past 19 years, some 25 out-of-town ministers will be housed at the Rymph home.



Rev. Rex Knowles, Guest Leader

CHRISTMAS— A TIME TO REMEMBER

Sharing Christmas

Pictured above are the Ralph Ewings —Kate Lee, Ralph and Cindy with "Tassie" Vaghena (second from left) of Greece who is studying at Russell High School under the American Field Service exchange program, and living with the Ewings. "Tassie" was intrigued with the extended pre-Christmas activities in America, as the celebration in her country lasts only from Christmas to New Year's. During the holidays the Ewings took Tassie to Detroit to visit her Aunt and Uncle.

Mrs. John Jones sends her Christmas letter from Wichita with a sketch of Mayflower Home where she will move into Pearson Hall, 616 Broad Street, Grinnell, Iowa in February, 1959.

Rev. C. Fosberg Hughes, formerly of Lawrence and Prairie Village, wrote his letter from the Congregational parsonage at Sioux City, Iowa, but has since accepted a position as Associate Director of the Midwest Area for the Christian Higher Education Fund.

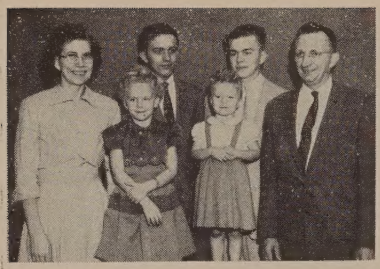
Dr. and Mrs. John Abel and Rita Kay held Open House at the Kansas City First Pilgrim parsonage on Dec. 28.

Rev. and Mrs. Wm. F. Keeney and four daughters write from Guadalajara, Mexico, where they began service as Missionaries a little over a year ago. They are all making progress in learning the language; they have two Mexican girls, 15 and 18 years of age, living with them and going to school; they enjoyed a visit from Dr. and Mrs. Roger Smith and Mrs. C. B. Knox of Manhattan in late November.

Mrs. John W. Gibson of Wichita Plymouth spent the holidays with her son and family in Denver. The Laird Campbells have four children—a girl and 3 boys, the youngest born on December 6.

Mrs. May Chaney of our Stanley Church writes that she has completed 25 years as Church Treasurer, and is passing the work to her daughter, Miss Ruby Chaney in 1959. Although Mrs. Chaney has been too ill to attend church for months, she has carried on efficiently and cheerfully.

The George Fisks of Rapid City, S. D., formerly at Wichita Fairmount, report their new church building in the brick stage. Marcia is in the 8th grade, Jonathan - 6th, Cynthia - 3rd and Madelyn - 1st.



The Poppes of Whitewater with Louie, Bill and Roger, Debby, Donna and Dorothy report a good year and express grateful thanks to their church for a new divan and matching chair which arrived at the parsonage at Christmas time. In addition to being State P.F. President, Roger is President of his local Student Council and tops his team on the basketball floor.

The Joe Kings, formerly of Lawrence, now in their 17th year at Oberlin, became grandparents in September when Joe and Cherie had a baby boy named Scotty. Carol in her senior year at Oberlin is to be married in June. Janet, 16, is in Oberlin High School.

Rev. and Mrs. Alvin Engelmann, our E&R friends in the parsonage at Hiawatha, write of their family. John is a junior at S.M.U., Dallas; their son Calvin with wife and baby daughter are in Germany where Calvin is a Doctor at the Base Hospital. Mrs. Englemann will spend March to September 1959 in Germany visiting her son and family, 3 sisters, a brother and other relatives.

Charles and Frances Brewster, formerly of Manhattan, write from Yankton, S. D., where they are looking forward to building a new religious education unit in 1959. Debbie was married in June to Michael Miller, a young Presbyterian Minister who will complete his work at Union Seminary next year. John is in his Senior year at Yale. Mrs. Arthur Holt (Frances' mother) celebrated her 80th birthday January 2.

Gordon and Vera Lancaster write from Alabama: "Mobile has put new life into these two Jayhawkers. The Gulf of Mexico is a humdinger; boating, fishing, shrimping, swimming, and just plain feasting your eyes, and all by-products of it, and we've sampled them all. One Saturday we went deep-sea fishing, caught 75 pounds of fish, and thought we'd found the end of the rainbow."

The Dick Zoppels formerly of Wichita Pilgrim, write from San Leandro, Cal., Martha is 8, Christine, 6, Mark - 4 and Carol - 1. Bobbie (Mrs.) enjoys playing her violin in a small chamber orchestra. Dick is busy with church and conference activities.

The Dan Tysons send their third Christmas message from Smith Center. Noel is in 4th grade, Hugh in 2nd, Eric is a 5 year old and young Paul at 15 months "is a housekeeper's nightmare."

Merril and Helen Grohman of Little River send greetings as their children (l. to r.), Kamala, Tanya and David, carol joyfully.

Lenora Church Christmas activities included the Family Workshop where each family was given Advent Candles and a ceremony for home use and a White Christmas service with toys and clothing for the needy. On December 21 a Church School Vesper Service based on "The Wonder of Christmas" program from "Tomorrow" was effectively given. On Christmas eve a cantata by the Choirs was followed by a candle lighting ceremony.

Fred and Lucy Smith write: "From the suburb of heaven, called Laguna Beach, where snow nor hail nor frost ever alight, come greetings from Old Time Kansanites but now Californianites, sunbrowned to perfection."

From the Christmas message of **Royal Gibson,** Supt. of Central South: " A final thought. Do you know what St. Peter said to the Texan who died and went to heaven? . . . You can come in—but you all won't be satisfied here."

Elizabeth, Jane and Jimmy Bagley of Manhattan, pictured below, are busy with Christmas Cookies—a family project. With their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Bagley, they spent the Christmas holidays in California with relatives. Mr. Bagley is Chairman of our Conference Stewardship Committee.

The Robert Gurtlers pictured above — Mark, Helen, Linda, Bob, Christine and Bobby, are hosts each year for the Ellis Church carolling party which is a family affair with five year olds singing as joyfully as the oldsters. On December 22, Christmas cheer was brought to 18 homes before the 40 singers returned to the parsonage for a chili supper.

The Hans Poppes of Sioux Falls, S. D., report 60 members in their new church in the southeast part of the city. At present they are meeting in a funeral chapel. They have a lovely split (4) level parsonage and hope to be building a church unit before too long.

The Currys of Downs write that Cecil will finish his Master's degree at Hays in January and they plan to move to the Downs' parsonage and give full time to our church there in the months ahead. Their son Sammy will have his first birthday in March.

Elmer and Edith Erickson write from Edgemont, S. D., using cowboy boots and hat to symbolize the ranch country there, saying "After seven of the happiest and most fruitful years of our lives at Seabrook Church in Topeka we made the decision to journey westward in April." They were happy years for Kansas too. How will we serve Convocation breakfasts without you?

Mark Bryant, two year old son of Bill and Marilyn Bryant, formerly of our Lawrence Church, hangs up his Christmas stocking at their home in Manhasset, N. Y.

Concord Church Center, Wchita, which is also the home of the Rev. and Mrs. George Dreher and their five children was a busy place during Christmas with a Christmas Family Workshop, Hanging of the Greens, a Christmas eve Nativity Pageant, in addition to Church School, worship services and Christmas family festivities.

Christmas Workshop at Wichita Plymouth attracted more than 200 people, attending as families. The 11 o'clock Christmas Eve Service featured an original "Christmas Story" by Joseph Roff presented thru drama and music. A generous gift from Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Garvey and Dr. Tom Gray is to make possible the establishment of a church library.

Chaplain and Mrs. Glen Witherspoon write from their home in Kensington, Md. Following their visit to Kansas for the Sabetha and McPherson Church Anniversaries in late September, Marie fell and broke her left leg in several places. She hopes to be walking without crutches soon.

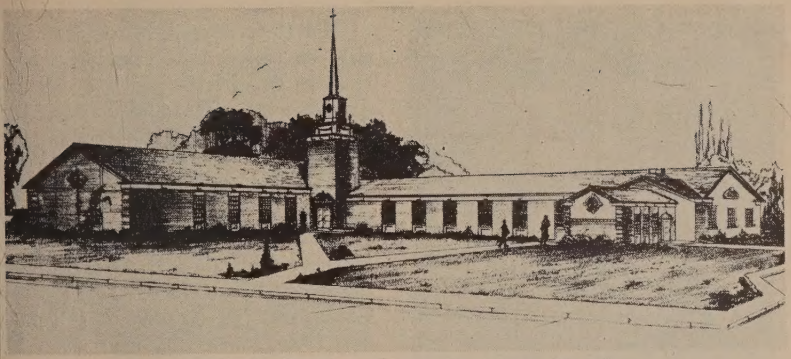
Parsonage Damaged

On Sunday, November 23, the parsonage at Wichita Pilgrim was badly damaged by fire. In the weekly church newsheet, "The Pilgrim Log", the Rev. Merton Rymph writes in his column, "Poor Merton's Almanac": . . . "Gentle reader — Nero fiddled while Rome burned, and I preached while the parsonage blazed. Church was out and the gentle people were leaving to the soft strains of the organ. I was shaking hands with folks when my six year old tugged on my robe to gain my attention, 'The house is on fire' he said. 'Fine, Son, fine', said I—'you just wait a minute'. I continued to shake hands. 'Daddy, the house is on fire,' he said. Well now, I'm thick headed, but not that thick headed, so at the sound of the siren, black robed in all my preacher's dignity, I took out running like a gazelle with its front feet caught in a black bag. I arrived at the house to find a fireman straddling the apex of the roof, chopping a hole in it with his trusty hatchet. Moral: When someone tells you your house—or the world—is on fire—you better listen." The fire started in the kitchen which was completely gutted by the flames. The rest of the house and contents were badly damaged by smoke. Damage of about $3000.00 was repaired and the Rymph family was able to move back in a week before Christmas.

Pilgrims Serve

On November 27 P.F.ers at Little River spent a Saturday soliciting subscriptions for "The United Church Herald" and "Congregational Kansas." They ended the day with 44 to the national magazine and 57 to our Kansas state paper.

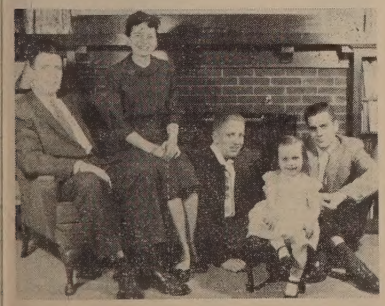
Great Bend Pilgrims went out following a covered dish dinner on Sunday, November 16, and came in with 106 subscriptions to "Congregational Kansas."



Architect's Drawing of New Great Bend Church

Christmas Decision

The members of The First Congregational Church of Great Bend voted unanimously at their December 28 meeting to accept the base bid of the general contractor for $181,838.00; plumbing, heating and air conditioning for $46,583.00; and the electrical contract of $19,349.00 for a total of $247,770.00. This means that within 60 days the new church will be started and will be completed in about a year. The bids came in for less than the Architect's estimate of $250,000.00. The Board of Trustees and the Building Committee were very pleased to receive such low bids and we will have our building for about $13.15 per square foot.



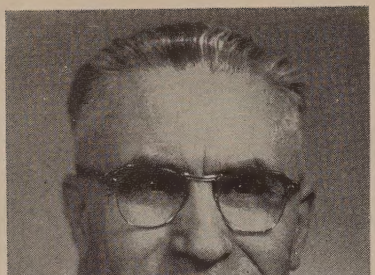
The Brantz Family — Ed, Alva, Malcolm, Claudia and Rennie

The vote of the congregation means that we will have a beautiful sanctuary, adequate educational facilities, a completed chapel and a youth activity room, with all completely air conditioned.

It was certainly a very wonderful Christmas present and we of the Congregational Church of Great Bend are very thankful. We pray that we might build the type of spirit within our community that will match the beauty of the structure. We fully realize that we must have the spirit of God within us as we build His House of worship.

—The Rev. Edward H. Brantz, reporting

Rev. and Mrs. Sadaichi Asai of Partridge write: "May we share with you a custom which we have enjoyed ever since the arrival of our two boys? In order to make Christmas more vivid to them—that Christmas is Jesus' birthday—each Christmas we have a birthday cake for Jesus. Following the main course of our Christmas dinner, a creche is set in the center of our dining room table and in front of the creche is placed Jesus' birthday cake with candles all lit. As the musical plate begins to revolve with the familiar tune, we all sing 'Happy Birthday' to Jesus.



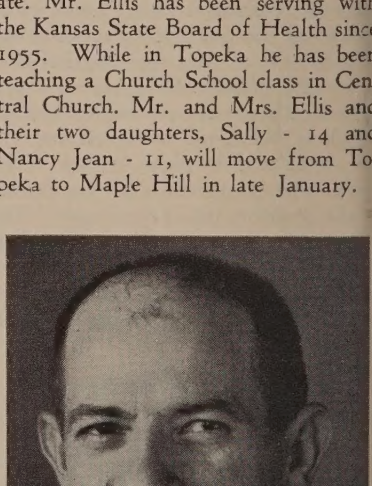
Rev. Ray A. Haun

Ministerial Changes

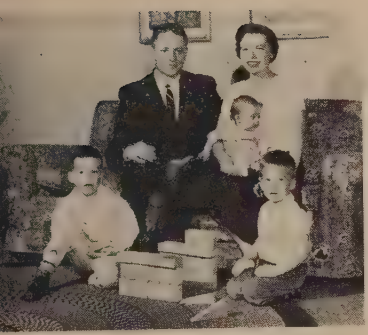
The Rev. Ray A. Haun, Minister of the Congregational Church in Ainsworth, Nebraska, has accepted a call to the Seaman Community Church at Topeka. Mr. Haun will begin his pastorate on February 15. He was ordained to the Congregational ministry at Letcher, S. Dakota in 1940 while serving the church there. He was later Pastor at Large in South Dakota, supervising the work with Indians for the Conference and Board of Home Missions. Since 1949 he has served at Ainsworth, leading the church in a major building program. The Hauns have three children; two away from home and one a student at Kearney College. We welcome the Hauns to Kansas and commend the Seaman Church for calling so able a man to build on the solid foundation laid by "Doc" Dull in his thirty years of ministry to this church. The church is fortunate to secure a minister to begin leadership on the day Mr. Dull's resignation becomes effective.

The Rev. Angus MacDonald began his pastorate at Hutchinson, December 15. He served the Mayfair Congregational Church in Toledo, Ohio, four years prior to coming to Hutchinson. Mr. MacDonald came to the United States from Melbourne, Australia in 1946. He transferred from the Disciples to the Congregational fellowship when called as Assistant Minister to Toledo First Congregational Church in 1952. We welcome Mr. and Mrs. MacDonald and their son Miles (15 months) to Kansas.

The Rev. William R. Ellis, a graduate of Baker University with one year's training at Illif Seminary, has been called to the Maple Hill pastorate. Mr. Ellis has been serving with the Kansas State Board of Health since 1955. While in Topeka he has been teaching a Church School class in Central Church. Mr. and Mrs. Ellis and their two daughters, Sally - 14 and Nancy Jean - 11, will move from Topeka to Maple Hill in late January.



Rev. William R. Ellis



Rev. and Mrs. Max Thomas
Max, Jr., Bruce and Peter

The Rev. Max Thomas, for the past two years Director of Christian Education at Topeka First, accepted a call the middle of November to become Associate Minister at Lawrence Plymouth and began leadership there the middle of January. Max is a graduate of Washburn University and has had two years at the Pacific School of Religion where he earned a Master's degree in Christian Education. At Lawrence he will have major responsibiliy for Church School and Youth Work but will also share in pastoral calling and other church activities. Included in the call is provision for 8 weeks each summer for further seminary study. The Thomases will live at 1010 Main in Lawrence.

The Rev. Carlos Demarest. a licensed Methodist Minister of Burlington Junction, Missouri, has been called to the pastorate of the Maize Congregational Church, beginning this work in December. Mr. Demarest will study at Friends University. The Demarests have three children, the youngest born just one week prior to their moving to Kansas. The Maize church recently finished a new parsonage adjacent to the church to make possible a call for a resident pastor.

The Rev. John Dean Fitzgerald, director of the Seabury Foundation and Minister to Students at First Congregational Church in Champaign, Illinois, has been called to the pastorate of the Garden City Church. He will begin his work about March first. Mr. Fitzgerald is a graduate of Colorado College and Chicago Theological Seminary. Robert Wells, Chairman of the Pulpit Committee, phoned this office the good news just as we were going to press saying: "We are sorry that we can not send you a picture of our new minister, but I can assure you that he is a very personable and capable minister. His candidating sermon was well received and we feel that we are fortunate in securing his leadership."

Congratulations to the Garden City Church and our welcome to John Dean Fitzgerald, Jr., to this growing church in the garden spot of Kansas.

The Rev. Sam Lee, Presbyterian minister, who has served so well the United Church at Osborne since 1954, will begin his new work as organizing minister for a new Presbyterian Church being established in Wichita. The Lees will move to their new parish the middle of January, living at 8038 Indianapolis. Our prayers and best wishes follow them as they begin this new Missionary project. We trust that the Osborne Church will find a successor with a like ecumenical spirit who will serve Presbyterians and Congregationalists alike with the same high regard for the tradition and faith of these two cooperative bodies.

The Rev. Harold E. Sturman has been called to the Weatherford, Oklahoma Federated Church, beginning his work there January 1st. He came to Centralia from Rio Hondo, Texas. We wish the Sturmans well as they return to the Central South Conference.

Kansas Women's Fellowship

Mrs. Roscoe W. Graves, President

In Memory

As evidence of the love and respect of those who knew them, the following names have been added to the Women's Fellowship Memorial Fund Roll of Honor.

Mrs. Josephine Freeto
Mrs. Emma Schermerhorn
By Wichita Plymouth

Mrs. May Cain Kull
Mrs. Leota I. Gerye
Miss Gertrude Haddon Mooney
Mrs. Helena Hobson
Mrs. L. Cady Hodge
By Topeka Central

Mrs. F. N. Parker
Mrs. Anna Shogren
By Emporia First

Miss May F. Riggs
By Lawrence Plymouth

Mrs. A. K. Chase
By Council Grove

Memorial Fund

"She always had the work of the church in her heart;" "she was very generous of her talent and money;" "she has long been active in our Women's Fellowship and we who knew her will miss her gentle ways;" "she was 96 years old and an ever faithful member." These are but a few of the verbal tributes paid to the dedicated women whose names have been placed on the Memorial Fund Honor Roll. We can look back in retrospect and say, "You, my friend, have shown me God. Your kiss upon my cheek has made me feel the gentle touch of Him who leads us on." Such influences never die, but live on in our own lives. The lives of these women silently challenge us to seek ever more diligently the Kingdom of Heaven and to carry on the work of Christ's church with love and inspiration. With this challenge before us the Memorial Fund grows each year through love gifts that reach out into our community, country and world.

The names of 41 women have been added to the Honor Roll to date, one name to the Rosemary Book and $127.65 in gifts has been received. As we continue to grow spiritually and materially as a State Women's Fellowship, let us remember humbly and gratefully these women whose lives have shown us dedication and whose love have shown us God.

—Mrs. Wm. Ehlers,
Memorial Fund Secretary

Challenge For The New Year

Again we have crossed the threshhold of another year. The door has closed behind us, and we have entered another room in our Father's House. Through all the changing years of our lives and mankind's long history on this earth, the one constant thing is the fatherly will of God. We look back into the year that is gone and see the workings of God's goodness. How much clearer does His presence appear now that the year is done than when we were in the midst of its stresses and its uncertainties.

The officers of the Kansas Women's Fellowship hope that each member will find in this New Year a renewal of faith, a sense of God's protecting love, a quietness of spirit and a holy joy in the service of our Lord and Master. The New Year beckons, clean and bright and lovely. It is a time for start-

ng things, for forgetting the mistakes f the past year and for looking for- ard to the undertaking of new tasks ith purpose and hope. We have a ean new page on which to write the ronicle of our individual and collec- ve growth.

This is a good time to look forward o the continuing progress of our Kan- as Fellowship. It is a well-known fact at our organization has grown by aps and bounds in the last decade. can remember when we had a budget f $200.00 and that was all paid by the tate Conference. The budget for 959-60 is $2,275.00.

Your officers feel that the organiza- ion has attained such maturity that he members are now ready to assume ew responsibilities. It was voted by he Executive Board at its fall meeting o place a receipt item (local Fellow- hips - $500.00) in the budget that we vill begin to use the first of May. There are between eight and nine thou- and women members in our Congrega- ional Christian churches in Kansas. The officers have faith that the women of the state will welcome the opportun- ty to accept this new responsibility.

Because the Executive Board recom- nends that each local Fellowship con- ribute to the work of the State Fel- owship. does not mean that this is a equired gift. We might call it a Love Gift. If it is not possible to make a gift of this kind, even though the women would love to do it, no one is going to feel badly about it except those who find it impossible to do what they would like to do.

The reason that I bring this matter before you now is that some of you adopt your budgets early in the year and we want each Fellowship to have a chance to include an amount for the State Fellowship if they wish to do so. There will be a more detailed explanation given at our April 25 meeting at the time of State Conference at Wichita Plymouth. Some of the officers went home from the Board meeting and explained our needs to their women and the result was that several Fellowships have sent in a gift for this year's budget. We know that the women of the state feel a true concern for the expansion of our work and that they will do what they can. If an organization does today just what it did ten years ago, it is stagnant and will eventually die.

No local Fellowship should feel pressed into doing something it can not do or something it does not feel it should do. Whatever you decide to do, please remember that we need your prayers even more than we need your money. In this New Year, may we have the vision to see our lives, our homes, our churches and our communities in the perspective of God's plan. We may well remember that life has its origin and destiny in God.

God bless you everyone.

Myrtle K. Graves (Mrs. Roscoe)

Retreat At Doane

The Fourth Annual Retreat of Congregational Christian Women of Kansas will be held on the campus of our own Doane College at Crete, Nebraska, June 1, 2, 3, 4. McPherson College has been a most gracious host to us the past three years, but in keeping with our desire to learn about the Christian Higher Education Fund; and in view of the fact that Dr. Donald Typer, President of Doane College, has invited us to come and become acquainted with our college, the 1959 retreat will be held at Doane.

Please circle these dates right now. Check your map to see where Crete is. It won't be too much farther for many of us, and perhaps we can pool rides.

Anyone want to promote some busses? How about one from Topeka and one from Wichita? Talk it up. Nearby churches could join the crowd there.

Registration will start at four in the afternon, June 1. We shall adjourn with our friendship circle after breakfast on Thursday, June 4.

The personnel of Doane will be hurrying to prepare for us, in order to have the buildings ready immediately after Commencement. We appreciate their special arrangements so that we can be accommodated.

There will be more room for us this year. We hope a number our our friends from Evangelical and Reformed Churches will join us so we can learn to know each other. They have been going to Doane for their retreats for several years, and are scheduled there again in July.

Plan now for many women from your church to come. Retreat is for ALL our women—old and young—married and single—officers and just plain gals.

Life is better after attending Retreat —plan for it now. More later.

Elizabeth Gunn, Retreat Chairman

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Easter In Church School

"Easter, the highest point of the church year, is often a stumbling block to teachers in the church school. What should we teach our children about Easter? How should we teach it? Can we admit to differences in our understandings about the resurrection experience without upsetting the children we teach?

There is no one answer to the above questions. Our curriculum materials give guidance, as does a new booklet titled "Lent and Easter in the Church School." This pamphlet is a collection of articles which have proved helpful to teachers in thinking thru an approach to Lent and Easter. Each writer expresses thoughts based on study and experience. Articles indicate differences in approach and will help the reader to analyze her own ideas and the needs of the children as she prepares to share with them the miracle of love. These pamphlets may be purchased from the Division of Christian Education, 25¢ each, $2.50 per 12.

Easter comes early this year so with Christmas scarcely over we begin to plan for Easter. Some good helps for Easter planning are: Children's Religion, International Journal of R. E., The Family Celebrates Easter by Storms, The Church School Worker and back numbers of the Program Manual. Hunt for stories that give meaning to coloring Easter eggs and the stories of the Easter bunny. Available from the Conference office are a number of filmstrips that can be used to help dramatize the Easter story. The theme of the Church School Worker for March is "Easter Around the World".

Do all of the teachers of children in your church have a subscription to Children's Religion? Beginning in February 1959 there will be a new series of special articles on "The Children We Teach and the Christian Faith." This series will help adult leaders do some good, solid thinking about what we are trying to teach.

"The Family Studies the Old Testament" is the family resource book for the winter quarter. Quite often we find the O.T. hard to read and understand. This book is to help both older and younger members of the family.

"Spokesman for God"—new filmstrip for Pilgrim Series courses January thru March 1959 is available at Conference Office.

—Mrs. Carl E. Georgeson

Purpose of Christian Social Action

The "Christian Community" states he purpose as follows:

"Our purpose is to work together as Christians in response to God's call in Christ to bring the gospel to bear upon ur common life—in the home—in the ommunity—in economic life—in politi- al relationships, both domestic and in- ernational. In our local church, this neans organization study and action oward the following aims:

1: To strengthen wholesome family ife.

2: To discover, use and support so- ial agencies and movements which help o meet community problems.

3: To understand the social and eco- nomic problems of all groups in the ommunity and work for justice and reconciliation among them.

4: To help Christians to understand their responsibilities as citizens and ful- fill them as voters, party members, policy makers and office holders.

5: To fulfill the nature of the church as a part of the body of Christ, which is called to witness to God's will in all of life."

Great Bend Moves Forward

The Great Bend church is definitely moving forward in its program of Christian Social Action. Under the enthusiastic leadership of their chairman, Bill McCarter, they have a group meeting monthly for the study of social problems. They use as a study text, the current issue of Christian Social Action. Three sessions have been held and in December they invited members from the local E&R Church and from the Russell church to join them. A Social Action Workshop in the spring, with all of the CC and E&R churches of the area having a part, is in the offing. There are 5 CC and 6 E&R churches in the area within an hour's drive and we can well look forward to some very constructive work in that section of the state.

Visitors At Ford

The Ford Church had a very interesting supper meeting in November with Phil Felton telling about the Laymen's Fellowship and the Family Camp. Elizabeth Gunn reported on the Women's Retreat to be held at Doane College and Guy Gebhardt discussed the Christian Social Action Program. About 25 were present and a fine discussion followed the presentations.

—Guy T. Gebhardt, reporting

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Forty Men!

March 6, 7 and 8 at Central Church, Topeka, forty Kansas laymen will be invited as guests of the Ameriacn Board for an International Seminar. The Kansas Laymen's Fellowship is sponsoring the project. Be sure someone represents your church.

Who's Who Overseas?

The 1959 American Board Prayer Calendars are at the State Office and can be picked up for forty cents each. The book has a new title: AMERICAN BOARD DIRECTORY, because it gives information about each of our active overseas workers and the names and addresses of all the retired ones. As before, it is arranged as a calendar of prayer for our missionaries and it is hoped that it will be so used.

Membership Maps

Mount Hope Youth Fellowship recently completed maps of the town and community showing the location of all member families. Displayed on the church study walls these maps prove very useful. The church expresses appreciation to the Y.F. and their sponsors.

The Charles Holbrook Library
Pacific School of Religion
1708 Scenic Ave.
Berkeley 9, Calif.

Important Dates

Jan. 16—Family Life Committee—Conference Office
Jan. 17—Stewardship and Christian Higher Education Fund Committees, Conference Office
Jan. 19—Conference Board of Trustees Conference Office
Jan. 25-Feb. 1—Youth Week
Jan. 27-Feb. 5—National Meetings, Buck Hill Falls, Pa.
Feb. 11—Ash Wednesday
Feb. 12—State Conference Program Committee Meeting at Wichita Plymouth, 10:00 a.m.
Feb. 13—World Day of Prayer
Feb. 16, 17, 18—Ministers' Convocation in Topeka
Feb. 23—Christian Education Committee—Conference Office
March 6-8—International Seminar for Kansas Laymen—Central Church, Topeka
March 8—One Great Hour of Sharing
March 29—Easter Sunday
April 24, 25 & 26—State Conference at Wichita Plymouth
May 3—Rural Life Sunday—Beginning of National Family Week
May 10—Mother's Day—Festival of the Christian Home
June 1-4—Women's Fellowship Retreat at Doane College
May 31-June 6—Wa-Shun-Ga Senior Camp
June 7-13—Wa-Shun-Ga Junior Hi Camp
June 14-20—Wa-Shun-Ga Junior Hi Camp
July 8-Aug. 5—LaForet Pastor's School
July 19-25—Kansas Family Camp at Estes Park
Aug. 24-27—Kansas P.F. Planning and Training Sessions at Doane College

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Sabetha Assistant

Charles Aeschliman will serve as a part-time assistant to the Rev. S. Duane Ogden of Sabetha during 1959, giving leadership to youth work and education and filling the pulpit when needed. Mr. Aeschliman was commissioned as a Lay Minister by Eastern Association in 1957.

Are You Reading?

Everyone who is participating in the Adventures in Reading program should have the "Part 2" list. These cost 3 cents and may be obtained from Miss Civilla Vinson. 819 Garfield, Topeka or from the Missions Council, 14 Beacon St., Boston. Report blanks will be sent out in February to be returned the first of March, so this is the time to read! This project is for everyone—not just for the women.